

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: Confirmation No. 9031
Applicant: William R. Hooks et al.
Filed:
TC/AU: 4422
Examiner: Alissa L. Hoey

Docket No.: 04050.0024.5
Customer No.: 30166

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant has filed the instant Continuation Application of Serial No. 09/972,013, filed October 5, 2001, now pending. This is a Preliminary Amendment.

If any fees are required for this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant requests that this be considered a Petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account 09-0528.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.